DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 323-0268



June 26, 1981

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE 1-81-81

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FNS-209 (STATUS OF CLAIMS AGAINST HOUSEHOLDS) REPORTING

SYSTEM

REFERENCE:

This letter is to provide information regarding upcoming changes in Food Stamp Program fraud and nonfraud claim collection reporting, and to also provide new instructions for submittal of the FNS-209 report (Status of Claims Against Households).

Early last year federal regulations were published which authorized a new federal reporting/accounting system for fraud and nonfraud claim collections. The regulations require substantial changes in the current FNS-209 reporting and accounting procedures at the state and county levels. As a result, SDSS has developed a new FNS-209 reporting system which is designed to implement the new requirements. It is expected that the new system will be implemented beginning with the report month of July, 1981. Specific detail will be provided through the All-County Letter process within the next few weeks.

One provision of the new federal regulations requires that FNS recover county fraud and nonfraud claim collections through an adjustment of the State's Letter of Credit. Currently counties submit warrants for fraud and nonfraud collections made during the month directly to FNS along with the respective monthly FNS-209 report. Until instructions regarding the implementation of the new system are provided, counties should, beginning with the July 1981 report month, continue to submit the monthly FNS-209 report directly to FNS, but retain all collections identified on the report in a secure, separate identifiable account. Also, since SDSS does not currently receive copies of the FNS-209 report, counties are requested to submit a copy of the FNS-209 report to SDSS at the following address:

California Department of Social Services Fiscal Policy and Procedures Bureau Audit Evaluations Section 744 P Street, Mail Station 13-81 Sacramento, CA 95814 The submission of the copies will enable SDSS to accurately account for the collections retained by each county.

Because adjustments to the State's Letter of Credit will be the vehicle by which FNS receives future collections, it is important for counties to ensure that all repayments collected in food coupons be included in the space provided for "amounts received by check, cash, money order" (line 5). Also, it is equally important that counties indicate the specific amount collected in food coupons, which is represented within the amount indicated on line 5, in the "Remarks" section. Counties are requested to ensure that all data submitted on the FNS-209 reports are accurate and submitted in a timely manner (current regulation Section 63-801.61 specifies that the reports must be submitted within 30 days after the end of the report month).

If you should have any further questions regarding this letter or require assistance with current FNS-209 reporting, please contact Leighton Lai, Audit Evaluations Section, at (916) 323-0268.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

CLAUDE E. FINN
Deputy Director
Administration

cc: FNS/WRO - Carol Fahey